

Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W. Washington, D. C. 20554

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 6, 2007

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT Aaron Goldberger 202-418-2500

News media Information 202 / 418-0500

Fax-On-Demand 202 / 418-2830

Internet: http://www.fcc.gov

TTY 202/418-2555

ftp.fcc.gov

STATEMENT OF FCC COMMISSIONER DEBORAH TAYLOR TATE ON ANNOUNCEMENTS OF INTERNET SAFETY INITIATIVES BY THE NATIONAL CABLE & TELECOMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION AND BY THE CREATIVE COALITION

With one in five children being confronted by child predators online, we should all be concerned about protecting our children in cyberspace. I am pleased to see industry stepping up to provide more tools for parents. I am delighted to learn of the announcements of two programs designed to educate families about the potential dangers of the Internet.

A substantial percentage of the residences in the United States that have a high-speed broadband connection use cable modem service. I applaud today's announcement by the National Cable & Telecommunications Association, the cable industry and Cable in the Classroom of their launch of a major initiative regarding online safety and literacy, *PointSmart.ClickSafe*. This program is designed to inform parents and educators about the tools available to make the Internet a safe and enriching experience for children and to raise Internet literacy awareness.

Moreover, yesterday, The Creative Coalition announced its *National Task Force on Children's Safety: Buckle Up for Safety on the Internet Highway* to develop an agenda to enhance media literacy. Comprised of national leaders in the fields of entertainment, education, media, policy and social welfare, the Task Force is working to equip our nations' children and their parents to use the infinite array of media available today most productively and safely.

I welcome initiatives like these --and others-- and encourage members of the arts and entertainment community, including every cable operator and programmer, to offer consumer education regarding media literacy. I congratulate NCTA, the cable industry, Cable in the Classroom and The Creative Coalition for their initiative and responsibility in creating these important programs and encourage parents everywhere to make every "click" a safe one.